



# **Export of unemployment benefits**

*Report on U2 Portable Documents*

*Reference year 2016*

Frederic De Wispelaere & Jozef Pacolet – HIVA-KU Leuven

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## Network Statistics FMSSFE

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## SUMMARY OF THE MAIN FINDINGS

- An unemployed person who wants to look for employment in a different Member State<sup>1</sup> than the one that pays the unemployment benefit may export this benefit for a limited period of time. Portable Document U2 (PD U2) grants the person concerned an authorisation to export the unemployment benefit to another Member State to seek work there for a period of three months. The competent Member State may, however, extend this period up to a maximum of six months.
- Figures reported by 29 Member States<sup>2</sup> show a total of 27,705 authorisations issued in 2016. The overall number of forms issued remained stable compared to 2015. Most authorisations were issued by Germany (5,688), the Netherlands (5,049), Spain (2,671) and Switzerland (2,616). Furthermore, Poland (7,788) and the United Kingdom (2,489) registered the highest number of jobseekers on the basis of a PD U2. Almost 8 out of 10 authorisations were issued by EU-15 Member States and almost half of the authorisations were received by EU-13 Member States.
- The mobility of jobseekers looking for work abroad on the basis of a PD U2 is rather limited observing that a PD U2 was issued for approximately 2 out of 1,000 unemployed persons. This might partly be the result of a lack of awareness and knowledge about the EU provisions on the export of unemployment benefits. Only Iceland, Norway, Luxembourg, Switzerland and Denmark show a relatively high mobility of jobseekers with a PD U2 (more than 1 in 100 insured persons). Moreover, the 'export rate' in the EU-15 is much higher compared to the EU-13. From a receiving perspective, the number of jobseekers with a PD U2 is much higher in the EU-13 compared to the EU-15.
- Several factors may influence the decision to export the unemployment benefit. Figures show a negative relationship between the share of unemployed persons exporting their benefit and the national unemployment rate, which is in contradiction to what one might assume. Reasons to export the unemployment benefit other than the height of the unemployment rate are thus probably more decisive. For instance, mobile workers who return to their country of origin after they became unemployed.
- The export rules are not applied uniformly across the EU. It appears that almost half of the Member States do not provide an extension:
  - *Three months, no extension:* Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Croatia, Greece, Sweden, Hungary, Italy, Ireland, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, Iceland and Norway;
  - *Three months, possibility to extend:* Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Spain, Germany, Luxembourg, Romania, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Poland and Portugal;
  - *Six months by default:* the Czech Republic and Malta.
- Some 11% of the authorisations were prolonged. Furthermore, it should be noted that some 2% of the PDs U2 were issued immediately for a period of more than three months.
- Roughly 1 in 10 of the unemployed persons with a PD U2 found work abroad. There seem to be low success rates for the Netherlands as one of the main sending Member States and Poland as the main receiving Member State. Furthermore, the prolongation of the export period results in a higher percentage of unemployed persons finding employment abroad. For the reporting issuing Member States which are granting a prolongation the success rate during the first three months amounted to 11%, the success rate during the prolonged period amounted to 10% and the total success rate amounted to 14%.
- Only 13% of the persons return to the competent Member State before the period during which the unemployment benefit is retained expires. These figures suggest that a high number of unemployed persons stay abroad even if they are no longer entitled to an unemployment benefit from the competent Member State.

<sup>1</sup> 28 EU Member States, as well as Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland. EU-15 Member States: Belgium (BE), Greece (EL), Luxembourg (LU), Denmark (DK), Spain (ES), the Netherlands (NL), Germany (DE), France (FR), Portugal (PT), Ireland (IE), Italy (IT), United Kingdom (UK), Austria (AT), Finland (FI) and Sweden (SE). EU-13 Member States: Croatia (HR), Romania (RO), Bulgaria (BG), Poland (PL), the Czech Republic (CZ), Latvia (LV), Lithuania (LT), Slovenia (SI), Estonia (EE), Slovakia (SK), Hungary (HU), Cyprus (CY) and Malta (MT). EFTA countries: Iceland (IS), Liechtenstein (LT), Norway (NO) and Switzerland (CH).

<sup>2</sup> No figures were provided by France, Greece and Liechtenstein.



## 1. INTRODUCTION

Unemployed persons who want to look for employment in a different Member State than the one that pays the unemployment benefit may export this benefit under Article 64 of Regulation (EC) No 883/2004<sup>3</sup> for a limited period of time.<sup>4</sup> However, the unemployed person has to fulfil some conditions to receive the unemployment benefit in another Member State. The person concerned must have been registered as a person seeking work and have remained available to the employment services of the competent Member State for at least four weeks after becoming unemployed. However, the competent institutions may authorise departure before such time has expired.<sup>5</sup> Furthermore, the unemployed person must register as a person seeking work with the employment services of the Member State to which (s)he has gone and must be subject to the control procedure of that Member State and adhere to the conditions laid down by the legislation of that Member State. This condition is satisfied if the person concerned registers within seven days from the date on which (s)he was no longer available to the employment services of the competent Member State.

Entitlement to an unemployment benefit is retained for a period of three months from the date when the unemployed person ceased to be available to the employment services of the competent Member State. Of course, this period of three months only applies if it does not exceed the period of entitlement provided for under the legislation of the competent Member State. The competent institutions may, however, extend this period of three months up to a maximum of six months. The person concerned must return to the competent Member State before the period during which the unemployment benefit is retained expires. The person concerned will lose all entitlement to benefits of the competent Member State if (s)he does not return in time, unless the provisions of the competent Member State are more favourable.

Portable Document U2 (PD U2)<sup>6</sup> '*Retention of unemployment benefits*' authorises unemployed persons to export their unemployment benefits if they go to another Member State to look for work.<sup>7</sup> It allows unemployment persons to seek work in another Member State without becoming a financial burden on the social security system of that Member State.

This report provides statistics on the use of PD U2/SED U008<sup>8</sup> and relates to reference year 2016.<sup>9</sup> The data collection exercise was accompanied by several additional qualitative questions giving Member States the opportunity to share their experiences with the application of the EU provisions to the export of unemployment benefits.

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<sup>3</sup> Regulation (EC) No 883/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on the coordination of social security systems.

<sup>4</sup> Please note that under Article 65 (2) of Regulation (EC) No 883/2004 a frontier worker has the possibility of making him or herself available to the unemployment services of the Member State in which (s)he pursued his or her last activity as an employed or self-employed person. This person can of course also go, under the conditions of Article 64, to another Member State to seek work.

<sup>5</sup> For instance, Recommendation No U2 of the Administrative Commission from 12 June 2009 affirms authorisation before expiry of the four-week period if the person concerned fulfils all other conditions and is accompanying his or her spouse or partner who has taken up employment in a Member State other than the competent Member State.

<sup>6</sup> See Annex II.

<sup>7</sup> See also Article 55 of implementing Regulation (EC) No 987/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 September 2009 laying down the procedure for implementing Regulation (EC) No 883/2004 on the coordination of social security systems.

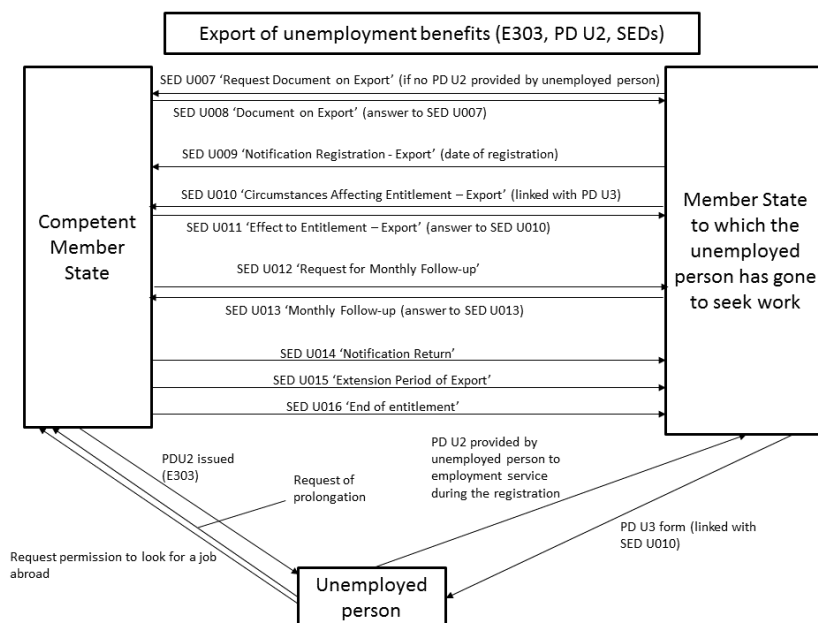
<sup>8</sup> The competent Member State will provide an SED U008 if the unemployed person has been registered as a jobseeker without a PD U2.

<sup>9</sup> See Annex I for the PD U2 Questionnaire.

## 2. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE

To facilitate the understanding of frequently used terms, *Figure 1* provides an overview of the current flow of documents between the citizen and the Member States involved. This also enables us to identify some of these flows and to discuss the related administrative concerns later on.

**Figure 1** The current and future flow of documents applicable to the export of unemployment benefits



**Source** The authors' own figure based on SEDs

PD U2 grants the unemployed person an authorisation to export his or her unemployment benefit to another Member State in order to seek work there. With this PD U2, the unemployed person must register as a person seeking work with the employment services of the Member State to which (s)he has gone. The institution in this Member State has to inform the competent institution about the registration by means of a Structured Electronic Document (SED)<sup>10</sup> U009 '*Notification Registration - Export*'. When the unemployed person registers without a PD U2, the institution in the Member State to which the unemployed person has gone requests the document on export from the competent institution by means of an SED U007 '*Request Document on Export*' and indicates the date of registration. The competent institution provides the institution in the Member State to which the unemployed person has gone with the requested document (SED U008, '*Document on Export*')<sup>11</sup> and continues to pay the unemployment benefit of the unemployed person. The latter may request an extension of the export period for another three months up to a maximum of six months. If the competent institution extends the export period it has to inform the institution in the Member State to which the unemployed person has gone about the extension by means of an SED U015 '*Extension Period of Export*'.

<sup>10</sup> All communication between national institutions on cross-border social security takes place by using structured electronic documents.

<sup>11</sup> However, only the body of the SED U008 provides information on the entitlement.

The competent institution may request a monthly follow-up from the institution in the Member State to which the unemployed person has gone (by means of a PD U2 (point 3.2 of the document) or an SED U012 '*Request for Monthly Follow-up*'). If a monthly follow-up is requested, each month the institution in the Member State to which the unemployed person has gone has to confirm by means of an SED U013 '*Monthly Follow-up*' that the unemployed person still complies with the procedures. If any circumstances occur which could affect the entitlement to an unemployment benefit (the person has taken up employment, has become self-employed, has refused a job offer or interview request etc) the institution in the Member State to which the unemployed person has gone has to inform the competent institution by means of an SED U010 '*Circumstances Affecting Entitlement – Export*' and the unemployed person by means of a PD U3 '*Circumstances likely to affect the entitlement to unemployment benefits*'.

### 3. NUMBER OF PDS U2 ISSUED AND RECEIVED

#### 3.1. The current flow of PDs U2 among Member States

Input from 29 Member States<sup>12</sup> was received, resulting in the calculation of a total of 27,705 PDs U2 issued and 22,044 of PDs U2 received in 2016 (*Table 1*).<sup>13</sup>

Most PDs U2 were issued (*in absolute terms*) by Germany (5,688), the Netherlands (4,462), Spain (2,671) and Switzerland (2,616) (*Table 1*). This is in contrast to Malta (1) Hungary (29) and Romania (29) which issued no or hardly any PDs U2. Poland (7,788) and the United Kingdom (2,489) clearly registered the highest number of jobseekers on the basis of a PD U2 (*in absolute terms*). The export of unemployment benefits expressed in relative terms, namely as a share in the total number of unemployed persons, is probably a better indicator to describe the impact of the EU provisions with regard to the export of unemployment benefits. This has been calculated in *section 3.2* of this report.

Almost 8 out of 10 PDs U2 were issued by EU-15 Member States (France is even missing). In addition, the EFTA issued some 18% of the total number of forms and finally the EU-13 Member States issued only 4% of the total number of forms. From a receiving perspective, half of the number of forms were received by EU-13 Member States, of which Poland accounts for more than 1 out of 3 PDs U2.

Only some 2% of the total number of forms were issued immediately for a period longer than three months.<sup>14</sup> This policy was applied by five Member States, namely the Czech Republic, Germany, Poland, Slovenia and Slovakia. Especially the Czech Republic (86%) issued a high number of PDs U2 immediately for a period longer than three months.

<sup>12</sup> No figures were provided by France, Greece and Liechtenstein.

<sup>13</sup> The reported figures also include the number of SEDs U008.

<sup>14</sup> In previous reporting Germany was not able to make a distinction between the forms issued immediately for a period longer than three months and those extended after three months. The total number of forms issued by Germany for a period longer than three months was applied as a numerator to calculate the percentage of forms issued immediately for a period longer than three months. However, on the basis of the most recent reporting we observe that this was a strong overestimation. This explains the lower percentage of forms issued immediately for a period longer than three months compared to previous reference years, for both Germany (5% in 2016 compared to 42% in 2015) and the EU (2% in 2016 compared to 8% in 2015).

No distinction could be made between the number of PDs U2 issued/received and the number of SEDs U008 issued/received. This distinction would enable us to quantify the number of unemployed persons who registered with the employment service in the Member State to which they went with(out) a PD U2. For instance, Italy reported that they issued 418 PDs U2 (95% of total) and 22 SEDs U008 (5% of total).

More detailed information about the bilateral flows of incoming and outgoing jobseekers was not requested by the PD U2 Questionnaire. This kind of information will be included in next year's questionnaire and reporting.<sup>15</sup> Nonetheless, some Member States did already provide such kind of information in their most recent<sup>16</sup> or previous<sup>17</sup> reporting.

Finally, it should be noted that only figures on the total number of forms issued and received are collected. Nonetheless, an unemployed person might export the unemployment more than one time during the reference period or during the benefit period.<sup>18</sup>

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<sup>15</sup> A revised questionnaire was presented in the Administrative Commission of March 2017 (AC 078/17). The reason for the suggested changes is that in order to assess the mobility of unemployed persons and to validate tentative analyses, more detailed figures are needed on the bilateral flows and success rates between Member States.

<sup>16</sup> Croatia reports that in the majority of cases exports are being made to Germany, Sweden and Ireland. Most of the unemployed persons with a PD U2 who seek work in Slovakia are from Germany (21%), the Czech Republic (16%), Ireland (13%), the Netherlands (13%) and Denmark (8%). Slovakia has issued most forms to unemployed persons who move to Germany (19%), Austria (19%) and the Czech Republic (14%).

<sup>17</sup> In previous reporting the Netherlands noted an increased number of requests for export to Poland. Belgium reported that some 45% of the unemployed persons who received a PD U2 moved to France, some 15% moved to Spain, some 7% moved to Germany and some 6% moved to the Netherlands.

<sup>18</sup> For instance, according to previous reporting by Belgium 1,535 unemployed persons exported their unemployment benefit in 2015, but this group at the same time exported 1,558 times their benefit. Denmark reported that for the two-year period 2013-2014, 14 people exported unemployment benefits twice to another Member State within the benefit period. None of these persons exported unemployment benefits to another Member State more than twice within the same benefit period, and none did so several times within the same year.

**Table 1 The number of PDs U2/SEDs U008 issued and received, 2016**

MS	Issued					Received	
	No of PDs U2 or SEDs U008 issued for up to 3 months (A)	No of PDs U2 or SEDs U008 issued for more than 3 months (B)	Total No of PDs U2 or SEDs U008 issued (A+B)	Column %	Share more than 3 months in total No of PDs U2 or SEDs U008 issued (B/(A+B))	No of persons who registered as a jobseeker on the basis of a PD U2 or on the basis of an SED U008	Column %
BE	1,543	0	1,543	5.6%	0%	667	3.0%
BG	83	0	83	0.3%	0%	235	1.1%
CZ	27	170	197	0.7%	86%	277	1.3%
DK	2,023	0	2,023	7.3%	0%	195	0.9%
DE	5,409	279	5,688	20.5%	5%	937	4.3%
EE	58	0	58	0.2%	0%	68	0.3%
IE	763	0	763	2.8%	0%	293	1.3%
EL							
ES	2,671	0	2,671	9.6%	0%	1,840	8.3%
FR							
HR	47	0	47	0.2%	0%	85	0.4%
IT	440	0	440	1.6%	0%	181	0.8%
CY	67	0	67	0.2%	0%	71	0.3%
LV	247	0	247	0.9%	0%	224	1.0%
LT	162	0	162	0.6%	0%	423	1.9%
LU	221	0	221	0.8%	0%	116	0.5%
HU	29	0	29	0.1%	0%	405	1.8%
MT	1	0	1	0.0%	0%	101	0.5%
NL	4,462	0	4,462	16.1%	0%	475	2.2%
AT	1,833		1,833	6.6%		809	3.7%
PL	180	26	206	0.7%	13%	7,788	35.3%
PT	1,183	0	1,183	4.3%	0%	1,080	4.9%
RO	29	0	29	0.1%	0%	758	3.4%
SI	28	7	35	0.1%	20%	23	0.1%
SK	70	5	75	0.3%	7%	641	2.9%
FI	288	1	289	1.0%	0%	86	0.4%
SE	189	0	189	0.7%	0%	577	2.6%
UK	301	0	301	1.1%	0%	2,489	11.3%
IS	417	0	417	1.5%	0%	82	0.4%
LI							
NO	1,830	0	1,830	6.6%	0%	220	1.0%
CH	2,616	0	2,616	9.4%	0%	898	4.1%
Total****	27,217	488	27,705	100.0%	2%	22,044	100.0%
EU-15	21,326	280	21,606	78.0%		9,745	44.2%
EU-13	1,028	208	1,236	4.5%		11,099	50.3%
EFTA	4,863	0	4,863	17.6%		1,200	5.4%

\* IT: of which 418 PDs U2 and 22 SEDs U008.

\*\* AT: Not possible to make a distinction.

\*\*\* SK: The export of the unemployment benefit was approved in 70 cases. However, not in all cases (67 cases) one has made use of it.

\*\*\*\* Total: No data available for EL, FR and LI.

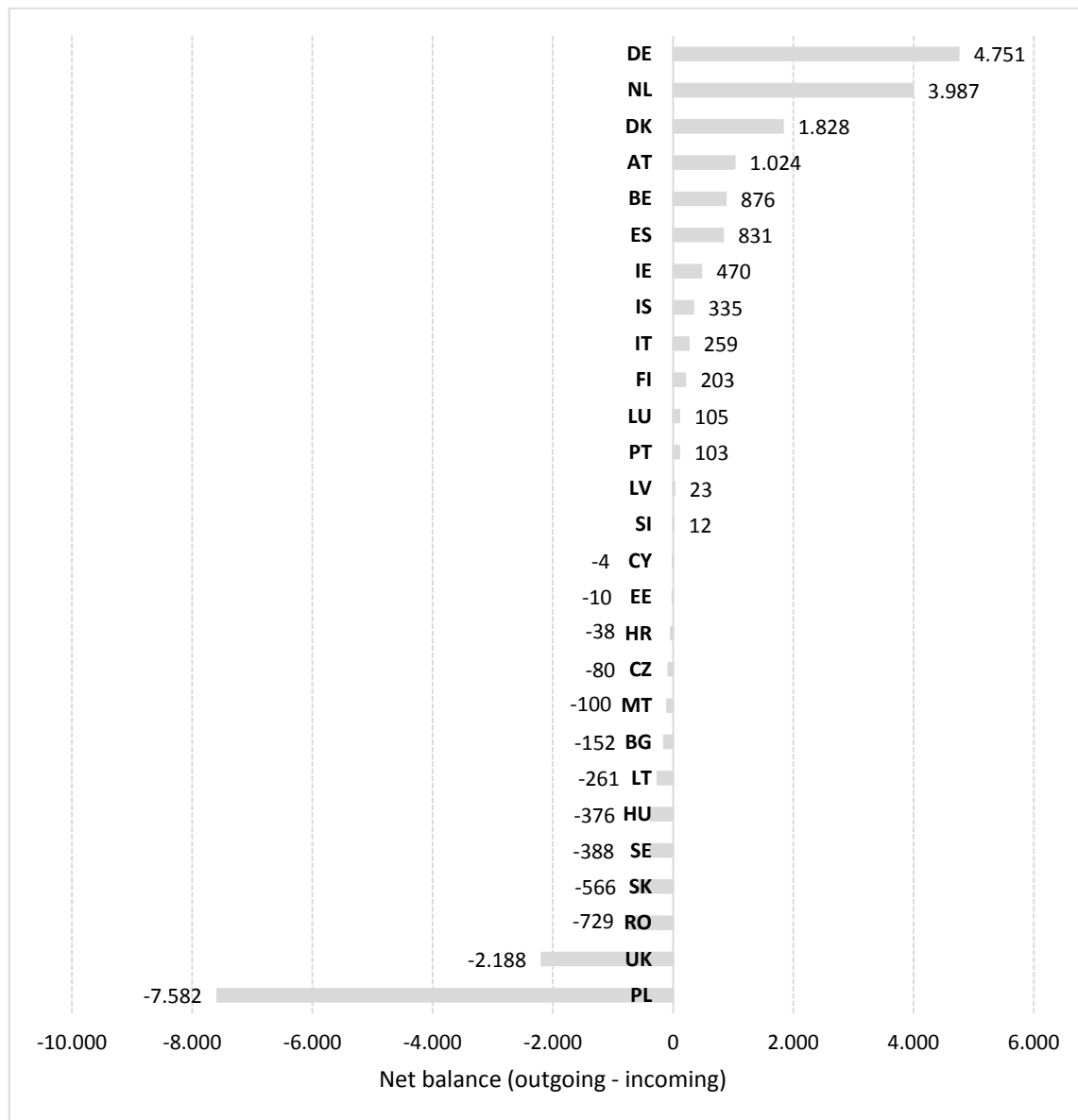
Source Administrative data PD U2 Questionnaire 2017

Figure 2 gives an overview of the net balance of PDs U2 per Member State by showing the number of outgoing jobseekers on the basis of a PD U2 minus the number of incoming jobseekers on the basis of a PD U2. Almost half of the Member States<sup>19</sup> are 'net recipients', implying that more jobseekers are received than sent. The other Member States<sup>20</sup> are 'net senders'.

<sup>19</sup> PL, UK, RO, SK, SE, HU, LT, BG, MT, CZ, HR, EE and CY.

<sup>20</sup> DE, NL, DK, AT, BE, ES, IE, IS, IT, FI, LU, PT, LV and SI.

**Figure 2** Net balance between unemployed jobseekers sent on the basis of a PD U2 and unemployed jobseekers received on the basis of a PD U2, 2016



\* No data available for EL, FR and LI.

Source Administrative data PD U2 Questionnaire 2017

### 3.2. As a share of the total number of unemployed persons

The mobility of unemployed persons seems limited when confronting the data on the export of unemployment benefits with the average number of unemployed persons (Table 2). On average 0.2% (2 out of 1,000) of unemployed persons moved abroad on the basis of a PD U2 in order to seek work there. Only Iceland (7.0%), Norway (1.4%), Luxembourg (1.3%), Switzerland (1.2%) and Denmark (1%) show a percentage of more than 1% of unemployed persons exporting their unemployment benefit. Germany and the Netherlands, which issued the highest number of PDs U2 in 2016, show an 'export rate' of 0.3% and 0.8%, respectively. In relative terms, most of the forms were issued by EFTA countries (1.3% of the total number of unemployed persons in the EFTA). The EU-15 Member States issued a PD U2 to 0.16% of the unemployed persons in the EU-15 and finally the EU-13 Member States only to 0.04% of the unemployed persons in the EU-13. From a receiving perspective, the number of

incoming jobseekers with a PD U2 account for 0.35% of the unemployed persons in the EU-13. This share is much higher compared to the EU-15 (only 0.07% of the unemployed persons in the EU-15).

The export of unemployment benefits leads to a shift of the number of persons looking for employment from the competent Member State towards the Member State to which the unemployed person has gone. The export of unemployment benefits nonetheless has a limited impact on the receiving Member States. For instance, 0.7% and 0.2% of the unemployed persons of Poland and the UK, respectively, which are the two main receiving Member States in absolute terms, are unemployed persons with the authorisation to import their unemployment benefit.

The estimated impact might be an underestimation as the number of unemployed persons and not the number of persons receiving an unemployment benefit has been used as the denominator for the calculation of this indicator. No data on the number of persons receiving an unemployment benefit are, however, available at EU-level.

**Table 2 The percentage of unemployed persons with a PD U2 compared to the average number of unemployed persons, 2016**

MS	Average number of unemployed persons (in ,000) (A)	Total No of PDs U2 or SEDs U008 issued (B)	% unemployed persons who exported their unemployment benefit (B/A)	Total No of PDs U2 or SEDs U008 received (C)	Share of PDs U2 or SEDs U008 received in total number of unemployed persons (C/(C+A))
BE	390	1,543	0.40%	667	0.17%
BG	247	83	0.03%	235	0.10%
CZ	212	197	0.09%	277	0.13%
DK	187	2,023	1.08%	195	0.10%
DE	1,771	5,688	0.32%	937	0.05%
EE	47	58	0.12%	68	0.14%
IE	173	763	0.44%	293	0.17%
EL	1,131				
ES	4,481	2,671	0.06%	1,840	0.04%
FR	2,970				
HR	242	47	0.02%	85	0.04%
IT	3,012	440	0.01%	181	0.01%
CY	55	67	0.12%	71	0.13%
LV	95	247	0.26%	224	0.24%
LT	116	162	0.14%	423	0.36%
LU	17	221	1.30%	116	0.68%
HU	235	29	0.01%	405	0.17%
MT	9	1	0.01%	101	1.11%
NL	538	4,462	0.83%	475	0.09%
AT	270	1,833	0.68%	809	0.30%
PL	1,063	206	0.02%	7,788	0.73%
PT	571	1,183	0.21%	1,080	0.19%
RO	530	29	0.01%	758	0.14%
SI	80	35	0.04%	23	0.03%
SK	267	75	0.03%	641	0.24%
FI	237	289	0.12%	86	0.04%
SE	366	189	0.05%	577	0.16%
UK	1,598	301	0.02%	2,489	0.16%
IS	6	417	6.95%	82	1.35%
LI					
NO	132	1,830	1.39%	220	0.17%
CH	227	2,616	1.15%	898	0.39%
Total	17,174	27,705	0.21%	22,044	0.13%
EU-15	13,611	21,606	0.16%	9,745	0.07%
EU-13	3,198	1,236	0.04%	11,099	0.35%
EFTA	365	4,863	1.33%	1,200	0.33%

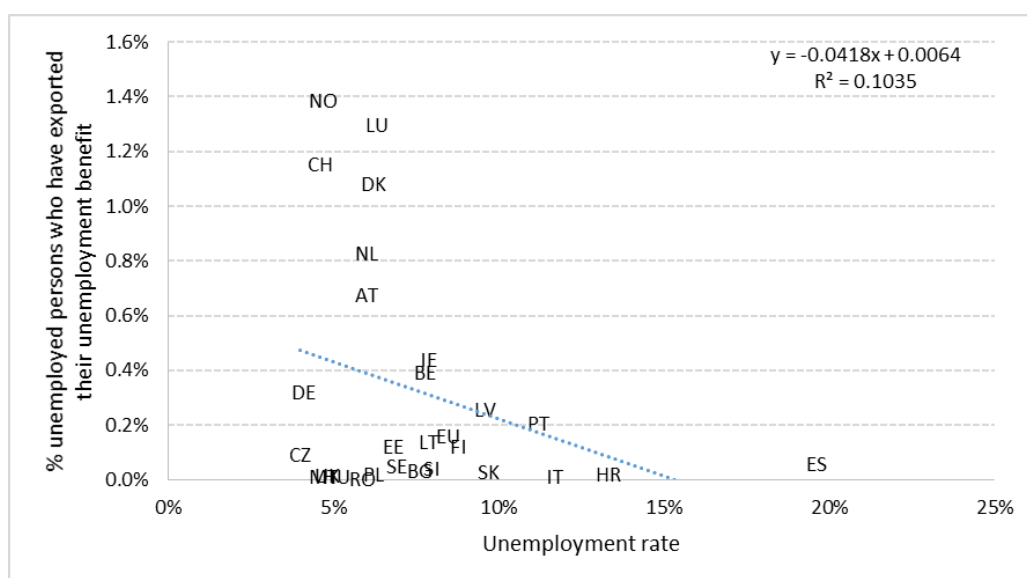
\* Total: No data available for EL, FR, CY and LI.

Source Administrative data PD U2 Questionnaire 2017; Eurostat

### 3.3. Explaining the reasons for exporting the unemployment benefit

Several factors could influence the decision to export the unemployment benefit. For instance, the incoming and outgoing flows of jobseekers could be explained by the level of the national unemployment rates. A higher export rate of unemployment benefits in Member States with a high unemployment rate as well as the export of unemployment benefits to Member States with a lower unemployment rate compared to the competent Member State could be expected. *Figure 3* compares the export of unemployment benefits in relative terms (as a share of the number of unemployed persons in the outgoing Member State) with the national unemployment rates. The figure shows a negative relationship between both variables, which is in contradiction to the original hypothesis.<sup>21</sup> Reasons to export the unemployment benefit other than the height of the unemployment rate are thus perhaps more decisive.

**Figure 3** The percentage of unemployed persons who exported their unemployment benefit confronted with the average unemployment rate of 2016, by issuing Member State



\* No data available for EL, FR and LI.

\*\* R2 measures how close the data are to the trend line. In general, the closer the R2 is to 1, the better the model fits the data.

\*\*\* There is a negative correlation coefficient of -0.3.

Source Administrative data PD U2 Questionnaire 2017; Eurostat

Other reasons such as familiarity with the Member State where a person is looking for employment or the mobile worker's 'return' to his or her country of origin<sup>22</sup> may play an important role. The PD U2 Questionnaire asked Member States if they carried out an assessment, survey or study at national level on the export of unemployment benefits. This information could be helpful to identify reasons for exporting the

<sup>21</sup> Moreover, on the basis of data provided by Belgium in previous reporting we observed that unemployed persons who received a PD U2 from Belgium mainly moved to France and Spain. Both Member States have, however, a higher unemployment rate than Belgium.

<sup>22</sup> Both unemployed mobile workers (residing in the same Member State than the competent Member State) and unemployed 'other cross-border workers' (residing in a Member State other than the competent Member State) can claim an unemployment benefit in their Member State of last activity. This in contrast to frontier workers who receive their unemployment benefit from the competent institution in their Member State of residence. The unemployed 'other cross-border worker' will receive, even on his/her return to the Member State of residence, benefits in accordance with Article 64 of Regulation (EC) No 883/2004.



unemployment benefit, but also to describe the profile of the jobseekers going abroad. However, no Member State provided such data for reference year 2016.<sup>23</sup>

### 3.4. Evolution of the number of PDs U2 issued and received

By comparing the figures reported for 2016 with these for previous years, the evolution of the number of PDs U2 could be reported. The overall number of PDs U2 issued remained stable, showing an increase of 0.7% compared to 2015 (*Table 3*). However, the increase is more pronounced from a receiving perspective (+1.8% compared to 2015). Finland has issued much more authorisations compared to 2015. This is in contrast to Hungary and Slovenia, which issued far less forms. Member States such as Italy, Hungary, Bulgaria, Croatia, Romania and Portugal received much more PDs U2. Moreover, Poland, which was already the main receiving Member State in previous years, received some 6% more PDs U2 in 2016 compared to 2015. Finally, Germany, which already receives very few jobseekers with a PD U2 in relative terms despite it having one of the lowest unemployment rates in the EU, shows a decrease of 31% compared to 2015.

**Table 3 Evolution of the number of PDs U2 issued and received, 2014-2016**

MS	Total number of PDs U2 or SEDs U008 issued				Total number of PDs U2 or SEDs U008 received			
	2014	2015	2016	% change 2015-2016	2014	2015	2016	% change 2015-2016
BE	1,517	1,535	1,543	0.5%	908	624	667	6.9%
BG	50	70	83	18.6%	214	129	235	82.2%
CZ	236	276	197	-28.6%	212	223	277	24.2%
DK	1,403	1,569	2,023	28.9%	190	230	195	-15.2%
DE	4,080	4,637	5,688	22.7%	1,458	1,351	937	-30.6%
EE	70	57	58	1.8%	64	60	68	13.3%
IE	731	918	763	-16.9%	444	268	293	9.3%
EL								
ES	4,096	3,159	2,671	-15.4%	1,616	1,858	1,840	-1.0%
FR								
HR	62	68	47	-30.9%	45	54	85	57.4%
IT	1,421	477	440	-7.8%		19	181	852.6%
CY		102	67	-34.3%		56	71	26.8%
LV	277	293	247	-15.7%	230	201	224	11.4%
LT	97	128	162	26.6%	298	360	423	17.5%
LU	198	225	221	-1.8%	158	148	116	-21.6%
HU	191	76	29	-61.8%	277	212	405	91.0%
MT	3	0	1		115	108	101	-6.5%
NL	3,099	5,049	4,462	-11.6%	519	457	475	3.9%
AT		2,013	1,833	-8.9%		823	809	-1.7%
PL	309	262	206	-21.4%	4,651	7,346	7,788	6.0%
PT	2,409	1,744	1,183	-32.2%	582	677	1,080	59.5%
RO	25	24	29	20.8%	381	553	758	37.1%
SI	106	60	35	-41.7%	23	27	23	-14.8%
SK	89	87	75	-13.8%	494	616	641	4.1%
FI	316	97	289	197.9%	98	95	86	-9.5%
SE	264	229	189	-17.5%	644	647	577	-10.8%
UK	273	225	301	33.8%	3,594	3,022	2,489	-17.6%
IS	495	549	417	-24.0%	102	84	82	-2.4%
LI								
NO	1,084	1,544	1,830	18.5%	434	396	220	-44.4%
CH	1,192	2,041	2,616	28.2%	1,156	1,004	898	-10.6%
<b>Total*</b>		27,514	27,705	0.7%		21,648	22,044	1.8%

\* Total: Only selecting those countries which reported figures for 2015 and 2016.

Source Administrative data PD U2 Questionnaires 2015-2017

<sup>23</sup> Sweden reported already in the report for reference year 2014 that "jobseekers between the ages of 30 and 39 used the opportunity to export their unemployment benefits [to] a slightly higher extent than other age categories and that 48 percent of the jobseekers who travelled to another EU country to search for work went to their own birth country". Furthermore, figures provided by Belgium show that 64% of the unemployed persons who received a PD U2 from Belgium in 2015 have Belgian nationality.

#### 4. THE NUMBER OF PROLONGATIONS

When unemployment benefits are exported, the entitlement to an unemployment benefit is retained for a period of three months. The competent institutions may, however, extend this period of three months up to a maximum of six months.

This freedom of choice which Member States are given by Article 64(1)(c) of Regulation (EC) No 883/2004 to extend the period of three months up to a maximum of six months results in a non-uniform application of the export rules.

Based on the quantitative and qualitative input of the Member States, differences appear in the policies applied for granting a prolongation (*Table 4* and *Table 5*). It appears that almost half of the Member States do not provide an extension.

- *Three months, no extension:* Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Croatia, Greece, Sweden, Hungary, Italy, Ireland, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, Iceland, Norway and Switzerland;
- *Three months, possibility to extend:* Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Spain, Germany, Luxembourg, Romania, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Poland, Portugal;
- *Six months by default:* Czech Republic and Malta.

Most Member States which may provide an extension have defined formal criteria to assess the requests for prolongation. The criteria most applied are:

- i) proof of an increased chance of finding employment abroad during the extended period (e.g. BG, RO and ES);
- ii) proof of efforts by the unemployed person during the first three months (e.g. EE, LT, PT, AT and SK);
- iii) job opportunities on the labour market of the competent Member State (e.g. DE, PL and AT).

**Table 4 An update of the policies applied by the Member States concerning the request for prolongation of the period of export (prolongation possible? Yes / No)**

MS	Prolongation	Applied criteria
BE	YES	* On an individual basis (circumstances that support prolongation)
BG	YES	* Restrictive interpretation: Only if there is an increased possibility to find employment abroad.
CZ	Most unemployed persons are authorised to export their unemployment benefit for the complete entitlement period. Only in some cases a PD U2 is issued for 3 months with a possibility of prolongation.	
DK	NO	
DE	YES	* The unemployed person's reason to seek work abroad * Chance of integration * Taking into account the national labour demand
EE	YES	Taking into account: * the unemployed person's efforts to look for work abroad during the first three months; * the unemployed person's planned activities for the future job-seeking process; * the jobseeker's evaluation why and how the prolongation would help to find employment abroad; * the opinion of the mediation consultant.
IE	NO	A limited period of prolongation can be allowed in exceptional circumstances (such as the death of a family member).
EL	NO	
ES	YES	* It is required that the unemployed person provides information about his/her involvement in any selection procedure or current activity to attain a job.
FR	NO	
HR	NO	
IT	NO	
CY	NO	
LV	YES	* Compliance with all procedures
LT	YES	* Person should write an application and present evidence of his/her job search in the Member State
LU	YES	However, if a person leaves the country without any intention of returning, the prolongation is not granted.
HU	Because of the maximum length of the unemployment benefit (90 days) prolongation of the export is not possible. On the other hand, prolongation of the export in the event of an unemployment benefit prior to pension is possible.	
MT	If on the basis of the length of his/her insurance record a person is entitled to a benefit for 6 months, the prolongation is granted automatically.	
NL	NO	
AT	YES	The jobseeker has to return to Austria. Only in exceptional cases a request of prolongation is approved without return. Taking into account: * the job search during the first three months; * whether there is a need for additional education/ training; * job availability on the national labour market.
PL	YES	* The competent institution will verify whether or not there is a job offer or any other labour market instrument addressed to the unemployed person in Poland.
PT	YES	* Verification of active job search by information request through applicable SED
RO	YES	* The sole condition is that the unemployed complies with the control and checking rules.
SI	YES	* The assessment of the request for prolongation of the period of export is usually based on the information provided by the person's employment counsellor in another Member State.
SK	YES	* The justification of prolongation of the unemployment benefit export is assessed individually. Relevant for the assessment are reasons such as: following the partner, enrolment in some educational training, requalification, language education etc.
FI	NO	
SE	NO	
UK	NO	
IS	NO	
NO	NO	
LI		
CH	NO	

Source PD U2 Questionnaires 2015-2017

Some 11% of the PDs U2 were prolonged (*Table 5*). This percentage would even be higher when deducting the number of jobseekers who found employment during the first three months from the number of PDs U2 issued for up to three months. This kind of data is only available for a limited number of Member States (*see second to last column in Table 5*). Furthermore, it should be noted that 2% of the PDs U2 were already issued for more than three months (*see Table 1*).

Four Member States, namely Germany (37%), Latvia (36%), the Czech Republic (23%) and Slovakia (21%), prolonged more than a fifth of the PDs U2.

Available data suggest that almost all requests for a prolongation of the export period were approved by the reporting Member States which may grant a prolongation. This suggests that these Member States are rather flexible in applying a prolongation.

**Table 5 The number of requested and granted prolongations of the period of export, 2016**

MS	Total number of PDs U2 or SEDs U008 issued (A)	No of requests for prolongation of export (B)	No of prolongations granted (C)	% prolonged (C/A)	% prolonged by using a more selective definition*	% approved (C/B)
BE	1,543		62	4.0%		
BG	83	9	9	10.8%		100.0%
CZ	197	45	45	22.8%		100.0%
DK	2,023		0	0.0%		
DE	5,688		2,092	36.8%	41.4%	
EE	58	9	9	15.5%	17.6%	100.0%
IE	763	10	0	0.0%		0.0%
EL						
ES	2,671	398	387	14.5%	16.2%	97.2%
FR						
HR	47	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	
IT	440	0	0	0.0%		
CY	67	2	0	0.0%		0.0%
LV	247	108	88	35.6%	35.6%	81.5%
LT	162	18	17	10.5%	13.4%	94.4%
LU	221		45	20.4%	22.1%	
HU	29		0	0.0%		
MT	1	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	
NL	4,462	4	0	0.0%		0.0%
AT	1,833	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
PL	206	24	23	11.2%	11.4%	95.8%
PT	1,183	52	52	4.4%		100.0%
RO	29	4	4	13.8%	15.4%	100.0%
SI	35	7	6	17.1%		85.7%
SK	75	16	16	21.3%	27.1%	100.0%
FI	289	0	55	19.0%		
SE	189	2	0	0.0%		0.0%
UK	301		0	0.0%		
IS	417			0.0%		
LI	0					
NO	1,830	0	0	0.0%		
CH	2,616			0.0%		
<b>Total**</b>	<b>27,705</b>		<b>2,910</b>	<b>11%</b>		

\* Denominator: the number of jobseekers who found employment during the first three months were deducted from the number of PDs U2 issued for up to three months.

\*\* Total: those Member States which reported the number of prolongations granted and on the basis of the policies applied by the Member States concerning the request for prolongation of the period of export.

Source Administrative data PD U2 Questionnaire 2017

## 5. THE SUCCESS RATE AND IMPACT OF PROLONGATION

The total success rate (= *the percentage of unemployed persons exporting their unemployment benefit who found work abroad*) is calculated by dividing the number of persons who found work in another Member State during the export period by the total number of PDs U2 issued.<sup>24</sup> Moreover, also the success rate during the first three months of the export period and the success rate during the prolongation period could be calculated.<sup>25</sup>

Approximately 1 in 10 unemployed persons with a PD U2 found work abroad. From a sending perspective, some 11% of the unemployed persons who exported their unemployment benefit found work (*Table 6*). However, the success rate during the export period varies markedly among Member States. The highest success rates are observed for unemployed persons coming from Hungary, Latvia and Finland. Furthermore, a remarkably low percentage of unemployed persons who received a PD U2 from the Netherlands, which is one of the main sending Member States in absolute terms, found work abroad (only 0.5%). From a receiving perspective, again some 11% of the unemployed persons who imported their unemployment benefit found work (*Table 7*). Especially unemployed persons who moved to Iceland, Switzerland, Malta and Luxembourg found work. This is in contrast to Romania (2%) and Poland (4%), which both show a very low success rate as receiving Member State. The low success rate is remarkable especially for Poland, as this country is the main receiving Member State in absolute terms. Romania and the Netherlands reported that the success rate in taking up employment remains at a low level. In the Netherlands, in some cases these applicants come from their Member State of origin to the Netherlands because of better job opportunities and, after becoming unemployed and receiving an unemployment benefit, want to use the right to export the unemployment benefit to search for a new job in their Member State of origin. After which they sometimes return without success and take up employment in the Netherlands again.

In order to assess the impact of the prolongation period, a distinction should be made between the success rate during the first three months of the export period and the success rate during the prolonged export period. For eight issuing Member States which are granting a prolongation it was possible to calculate the success rate for both periods (*Table 6*). The success rate during the first three months amounted to 10.9%, the success rate during the prolonged period amounted to 10.0% and the total success rate amounted to 13.8% (or an increase by some three percentage points). These results show that the success rate during the prolonged period is similar to the success rate during the first three months. Another indicator to measure the impact of the prolongation period is the calculation of the share of persons who found work in another Member State during this period. On the basis of *Table 6* it seems that of the persons who found work some 1 out of 5 did this during the prolongation period. However, on the basis of *Table 7* this share decreases to 7%.

<sup>24</sup> This not the best denominator as also persons who are still seeking work abroad in 2016 on the basis of a PD U2 issued in 2015 should be taken into account. However, we do not know how many of the PDs U2 issued in 2015 are still valid. Moreover, it is better to analyse only those persons who have finalised their export period and the outcome of this (found work, returned to the competent Member State, stayed in the Member State where seeking work).

<sup>25</sup> The success rates during the export period could be compared to the chance of finding work (during the first three months or during the prolonged export period) on the labour market of the competent Member State or the chance of finding work (during the first three months or during the prolonged export period) by unemployed persons living in the Member State where they are seeking work. This comparison should give us an answer to the question whether or not the export leads to a higher chance of finding employment during the first three months or in the event of prolongation after six months. The report of 2014 already discussed this question. Due to several methodological limitations, the results were tentative. For instance, we do not know if the unemployed persons exporting their unemployment benefit have characteristics similar to the 'native' unemployed persons. Therefore, more detailed information is required for a more thorough calculation and comparison.

**Table 6 The number of unemployed persons with a PD U2 who found work, by sending Member State, 2016**

Sending MS	Total number of PDs U2 issued (A)	No of prolongations granted (B)	No of persons who found work in another MS during the export period (C)	of which: No of persons who found work in another MS during the prolonged export period (if applicable) (D)	of which: No of persons who found work during the first 3 months E=(C-D)	Success rate during the first 3 months (E/A)	Success rate during the prolonged export period (D/B)	Total success rate (C/A)	Share of persons who have found work in another MS during the prolonged export period (D/C)
BE	1,543	62	*					*	
BG	83	9							
CZ	197	45	43					21.8%	
DK	2,023		343**		343	17.0%		17.0%	
DE	5,688	2,092	819	190	629	11.1%	9.1%	14.4%	23.2%
EE	58	9	8	1	7	12.1%	11.1%	13.8%	12.5%
IE	763	0							
EL									
ES	2,671	387	340	55	285	10.7%	14.2%	12.7%	16.2%
FR									
HR	47	0	8		8	17.0%		17.0%	
IT	440	0							
CY	67	0	4			6.0%		6.0%	
LV	247	88	101***					40.9%	
LT	162	17	41	6	35	21.6%	35.3%	25.3%	14.6%
LU	221	45	19	2	17	7.7%	4.4%	8.6%	10.5%
HU	29		14		14			48.3%	
MT	1	0	0	0	0	0.0%		0.0%	
NL	4,462	0	21		21	0.5%		0.5%	
AT	1,833								
PL	206	23	6	2	4	1.9%	8.7%	2.9%	33.3%
PT	1,183	52	*					*	
RO	29	4	4	1	3	10.3%	25.0%	13.8%	25.0%
SI	35	6						0.0%	
SK	75	16	18	2	16	21.3%	12.5%	24.0%	11.1%
FI	289	55	88		88	30.4%		30.4%	
SE	189	0							
UK	301	0							
IS	417		90		90	21.6%		21.6%	
LI	0								
NO	1,830	0							
CH	2,616		133		133	5.1%		5.1%	
Total ****	27,705	2,910	4,203	259				10.8%	21%
Only MSs granting prolong. *****						10.9%	10.0%	13.8%	

\* PT and BE: The success rate was not reported because of the use of too broad a definition.

\*\* DK: People who stopped the export period early without returning to Denmark (241 persons reported they found work and 102 persons did not report anything).

\*\*\* LV: No distinction can be made.

\*\*\*\* Total: those Member States which reported the number of persons who found work in another Member State during the export period.

\*\*\*\*\* Only Member States granting prolongation: this row only selects the Member States which grant an extension of the export period and also reported all the required figures.

Source Administrative data PD U2 Questionnaire 2017

**Table 7 The number of unemployed persons with a PD U2 who found work, by receiving Member State, 2016**

Receiving MS	Total number of PDs U2 or SEDs U008 received (A)	No of persons who found work in your MS during the export period (B)	of which: No of persons who found work in another MS during the prolonged export period (if applicable) (C)	Total success rate (B/A)	Share of persons who have found work in another MS during the prolonged export period
BE	667	116		17.4%	
BG	235				
CZ	277	65	3	23.5%	4.6%
DK	195				
DE	937	187	26	20.0%	13.9%
EE	68	14		20.6%	
IE	293				
EL					
ES	1,840	240	15	13.0%	6.3%
FR					
HR	85	4	0	4.7%	0.0%
IT	181				
CY	71	17	1	23.9%	5.9%
LV	224				
LT	423	22	1	5.2%	4.5%
LU	116	38	3	32.8%	7.9%
HU	405	56	2	13.8%	3.6%
MT	101	34	3	33.7%	8.8%
NL	475	138	8	29.1%	5.8%
AT	809				
PL	7,788	300	6	3.9%	2.0%
PT	1080	83	0	7.7%	0.0%
RO	758	15	2	2.0%	13.3%
SI	23	3	0	13.0%	0.0%
SK	641	81	16	12.6%	19.8%
FI	86	12	3	14.0%	25.0%
SE	577	54	7	9.4%	13.0%
UK	2,489				
IS	82	60	0	73.2%	0.0%
LI					
NO	220				
CH	898	339		37.8%	
<b>Total *</b>	<b>22,044</b>	<b>1,878</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>10.8%</b>	<b>6.7%</b>

\* Total: those Member States which reported the number of persons who found work in their Member State during the export period.

Source Administrative data PD U2 Questionnaire 2017

## 6. RETURN TO THE COMPETENT MEMBER STATE

The unemployed person must return to the competent Member State before the period during which the unemployment benefit is retained expires unless the provisions of the competent Member State are more favourable. If the person concerned does not return in time, (s)he will lose all entitlement to benefits of the competent Member State. Figures show, however, that only 13% of the persons return to the competent Member State (*Table 8*). Some 8 out of 10 unemployed persons who received a PD U2 from Poland returned. This in contrast to unemployed persons who received an authorisation from Germany (1%), Switzerland (3%), Lithuania (3%) and Croatia (4%). Furthermore, the fact that the person concerned does not return, does not necessarily imply that (s)he has found employment abroad (see *section 4* and the last column of *Table 8*). These figures suggest that a high number of unemployed persons stay abroad even if they are no longer entitled to an unemployment benefit from the competent Member State.

**Table 8 The number of persons who returned and registered with the employment services in the competent Member State before the end of the export period, by sending Member State, 2016**

	Total No of PDs U2 or SEDs U008 issued (A)	No of persons who returned and registered with the employment services in the competent MS before the end of the export period (B)	% who returned and registered with the employment services in the competent MS before the end of the export period (B/A)	% who found work abroad
BE	1,543	218	14.1%	73.9%
BG	83			
CZ	197			21.8%
DK	2,023	744	36.8%	17.0%
DE	5,688	51	0.9%	14.4%
EE	58	9	15.5%	13.8%
IE	763			
EL				
ES	2,671	226	8.5%	12.7%
FR				
HR	47	2	4.3%	17.0%
IT	440			
CY	67	4	6.0%	6.0%
LV	247	59	23.9%	40.9%
LT	162	5	3.1%	25.3%
LU	221			8.6%
HU	29	4	13.8%	48.3%
MT	1	0	0.0%	0.0%
NL	4,462			0.5%
AT	1,833			
PL	206	170	82.5%	2.9%
PT	1,183	220	18.6%	81.4%
RO	29	2	6.9%	13.8%
SI	35			0.0%
SK	75	7	9.3%	24.0%
FI	289	125	43.3%	30.4%
SE	189	55	29.1%	
UK	301			
IS	417	285	68.3%	21.6%
LI	0			
NO	1,830			
CH	2,616	75	2.9%	5.1%
<b>Total *</b>	<b>27,705</b>	<b>2,261</b>	<b>12.9%</b>	<b>10.8%</b>

\* \* Total: those Member States which reported the number of persons who returned.

Source Administrative data PD U2 Questionnaire 2017

## 7. PRACTICAL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RULES

The unemployed person has to fulfil several conditions before leaving and on arrival to receive the unemployment benefit in another Member State. Some Member States report that these conditions are not always fulfilled. Latvia reports that persons are not always properly informed by their competent Member State on the export of unemployment benefits. By this, unemployed persons sometimes leave the Member State without requesting a PD U2, which was confirmed by Greece, Cyprus, Hungary and Slovakia. Moreover, Greece reports that unemployed persons do not always register with the employment services of the receiving Member State within seven days. These cases might suggest that unemployed persons are not sufficiently aware of their rights and duties and highlight the importance of raising awareness. If unemployed persons are not aware of these rights/duties, they might also fail to assert/fulfil them when they move to another Member State without a PD U2. Moreover, there is the risk that even competent institutions do not know this right to export unemployment benefits.



Although the conditions to export unemployment benefits are not always fulfilled, Member States are not aware of cases of inappropriate use of PD U2. Only Norway revealed 11 cases where the beneficiaries took up employment while still receiving an unemployment benefit.

As described above, the authorisation to export an unemployment benefit to another Member State results into a well-determined administrative procedure between the competent institutions of the sending and receiving Member State. Belgium reports that these procedures and documents are better known and better used. Denmark, Germany, Ireland, Greece, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Poland and Portugal reported that they have no specific problems with the practical implementation of the rules. Nonetheless, as reported by the Member States the procedure causes problems or concerns in some cases.

The problems/concerns most frequently reported by the Member States are:

- delays in or not receiving confirmation of the registration (SED U009) of the unemployed person with the unemployment services in the Member State where (s)he is seeking work with a PD U2 (BG, CZ, HR, PT, SK, FI, SE and IS);
- delays in or not receiving a monthly follow-up (SED U0013) (BG, CZ, EE, HR, LV, MT and SK);
- delays in reporting circumstances which could affect the entitlement (SED U010) (CZ and SE);
- no reply to the question whether a person has been granted a PD U2 (SED U007) (SE);
- difficulties in being accepted as a jobseeker in the receiving Member State (CZ, EE, LV and FI).

## 8. AWARENESS-RAISING POLICIES

A possible tool to increase the mobility of unemployed persons is the launch of information campaigns or events to raise awareness about the EU provisions on the export of unemployment benefits. Moreover, it is important that unemployed persons who want to seek work abroad are aware about their rights and duties.

However, based on the input received from the Member States we tend to conclude that efforts to increase awareness and knowledge about the export of unemployment benefits are still limited.

The competent institutions<sup>26</sup> and the public employment services<sup>27</sup> inform jobseekers mainly via their website or by organising or participating in seminars and information sessions. Another channel which is used to inform unemployed persons about their right to export their unemployment benefits is EURES (via advisors, job fairs, the website).<sup>28</sup>

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<sup>26</sup> E.g. in CZ, DK, EL, LT, NL, AT, RO, SK, FI, UK and IS.

<sup>27</sup> E.g. in DK, HR, IT, HU, RO, and SE.

<sup>28</sup> E.g. in DE, EE, IE, MT, LV, HU, PT and AT.

## ANNEX I PD U2 QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Reporting state:
2. Reporting institution (*please provide full contact details*):
3. Export of unemployment benefits **from your Member State** in accordance with Article 64 of Regulation (EC) No 883/2004 (*please complete the table below*):

Reference period <sup>(29)</sup>: .....

	No of PD U2 or SED U008 issued <sup>(30)</sup>		Export prolongations		Reintegration in the labour market <sup>(31)</sup>		Return to competent MS	Length of export period
	No of PD U2 or SED U0008 issued for up to 3 months	No of PD U2 of SED U008 issued for more than three months <sup>(32)</sup>	No of requests for prolongation of export beyond the minimum period of 3 months	No of prolongations granted	No of persons who found work in another MS during the export period <sup>(3)</sup>	of which: No of persons who found work in another MS during the prolonged export period (if applicable) <sup>(3)</sup>	No of persons who returned and registered with the employment services in your MS before the end of the export period	Average length of the export period during which the benefits were paid
<b>T o t a l</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

Additional comments:

(data sources, data limitations etc.)

4. Export of unemployment benefits **to your Member State** in accordance with Article 64 of Regulation (EC) No 883/2004 (*please complete the table below*):

Reference period: .....

	Registrations	Reintegration in the labour market <sup>(3)</sup>	
	No of persons who registered as a jobseeker on the basis of PD U2 or on the basis of SED U008 <sup>(33)</sup>	No of persons who found work in your MS during the export period <sup>(3)</sup>	of which: No of persons who found work in your MS during the prolonged export period (if applicable) <sup>(3)</sup>
<b>T o t a l</b>	0	0	0

Additional comments:

(data sources, data limitations etc.)

<sup>29</sup> Please provide data concerning documents or decisions issued within the reference period.

<sup>30</sup> Please count only one document per individual case. If you issue both PD U2 and SED U008 in an individual case, count only one of these documents per case. Do not count documents that have been revised or corrected.

<sup>31</sup> Please answer this question whenever possible.

<sup>32</sup> Please count here documents issued by the institutions **directly for a longer than the minimum period** of three months (without recourse to a prolongation procedure).


<sup>33</sup> If both PD U2 or SED U008 were issued in an individual case, please count only one of these documents per case.

5. Have you carried out any information campaigns or awareness-raising events on the EU rules on export of unemployment benefits in your country? If yes, which ones and for which target groups (citizens, employment services, etc.)?
6. Have you carried out an assessment, survey or study at national level on the export of unemployment benefits in the past? If yes, please refer to or present the results.
7. Does your Member State have criteria for assessing requests for prolongation of the period of export? If yes, what are they? If not, on what basis do you assess the requests for prolongation?
8. What is your Member State's experience of the practical implementation of the rules on export of unemployment benefits?
9. Have you any reports on cases of inappropriate use of a Portable Document U2 in relation to your Member State? If possible, please provide quantitative or anecdotal evidence, or refer to national court cases.
10. What are the national procedures in your Member State for dealing with complaints of unemployed persons concerning the export of unemployment benefits<sup>34</sup>?

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<sup>34</sup> These can concern complaints regarding the various steps of the procedure (for example: a refusal to authorise the export, a refusal to prolong the export period, delays in the payments of benefits, etc.).

## ANNEX II PORTABLE DOCUMENT U2

U2		Coordination of Social Security Systems
		Retention of unemployment benefit entitlement EU Regulations 883/04 and 987/09 (*)

## INFORMATION FOR THE HOLDER

You may receive unemployment benefit up to the date shown in box 2 from your institution issuing this document, if you:

- ✦ are moving to another EU State to look for work.
- ✦ register as a jobseeker with the employment services in that State, submit to their control procedures.
- ✦ register within 7 days (see box 2) of the date you ceased to be available to the employment service of the State you left. If you register after this date, your benefit will only be paid from the day you register.
- ✦ continue to meet the conditions of the Member State you left.
- ✦ meet the conditions of the Member State where you are seeking work.

## 1. PERSONAL DETAILS OF THE HOLDER

1.1	Personal Identification Number	<input type="checkbox"/> Female	<input type="checkbox"/> Male
1.2	Surname		
1.3	Forenames		
1.4	Surname at birth (*)		
1.5	Date of birth	1.6	Nationality
1.7	Place of birth		

## 2. PERIODS FOR WHICH UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS MAY BE PAID BY THE INSTITUTION ISSUING THIS DOCUMENT

The holder is entitled to unemployment benefit from the office issuing this document

2.1	From	and either 2.2.1 to (date)
		or 2.2.2 for a maximum of (days)

Benefit is payable in principle if the holder registered with the employment service in the State where he/she is seeking work

2.3	at the latest by
-----	------------------

and can continue to be paid for the above period if he/she remains registered and subject to controls by the State where he/she is seeking work throughout the period. However benefits can only continue to be paid from the date in 2.1 and for as many days as the entitlement to unemployment benefits under the law of the office issuing this document exists.

U2



## Retention of unemployment benefit entitlement

## 3. SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FOR THE HOLDER

## 3.1 Notification of registration

The employment service in the State where you are seeking work must immediately inform the office that issued this document of the date on which you first registered in its territory and of your address there.

## 3.2 Monthly reporting

The employment service in the State where you are seeking work

☐ 3.2.1 is required

☐ 3.2.2 is not required to send monthly reports to the office that issued this document

## 3.3 Changes of circumstances

The payment of benefits may be suspended by the State issuing this document if any of the circumstances below occur. The employment service where you are seeking work must immediately notify the issuing State if any of the following applies to you and from which date. You:

- + take up employment or become self-employed
- + receive earnings from an activity other than those mentioned above
- + refuse a job offer or interview request from the employment services
- + refuse to participate in occupational rehabilitation
- + are suffering from incapacity for work
- + do not submit to control procedures
- + are not available to the employment services
- + other

## 4. INSTITUTION COMPLETING THE FORM

4.1 Name

4.2 Street, N°

4.3 Town

4.4 Post code

4.5 Country code

4.6 Institution ID

4.7 Office fax N°

4.8 Office phone N°

4.9 E-mail

4.10 Date

4.11 Signature

STAMP

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